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Atty. Docket No.: 30391-18

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | | |
| Syuichi KIKUCHI |) | Group Art Unit: | 2186 |
| |) | | |
| Serial No.: 10/518,417 |) | Examiner: | Not assigned |
| |) | | |
| Filed: December 17, 2004 |) | | |
| |) | | |
| For: FLASH MEMORY |) | | |
| |) | | |

San Diego, California
July 6, 2006

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

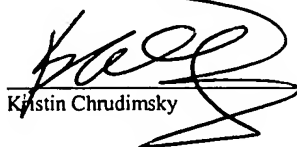
Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants make the below-listed documents of record in the above-identified application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not a representation that the information cited is effective as prior art to the application or is material to patentability.

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and anything referred to as being submitted herewith, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 CFR § 1.10, "Express Mail" mailing label No. EV738782076US, addressed to Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 6th day of July, 2006.

Signature:


Kristin Chrudimsky

Pursuant to MPEP §609.04, Applicant encloses an action of the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart application, and an English-language translation. This document includes a listing of the cited non-English-language references and comments on them. The following references are submitted:

Non-U.S. Patent Documents

1. Mitsubishi Electric Corp., Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 08-221223, August 30, 1996 (English abstract provided);
2. Canon Inc., Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 09-93523, April 4, 1997 (English abstract provided);
3. Memory Corp., Japanese Publication No. 2002-537596, November 5, 2002, National Phase of PCT No. WO 0049488, (English abstract provided);
4. Memory Corp., PCT No. WO 0049488, August 24, 2000;
5. Victor Co. of Japan Ltd., Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No.11-143764, May 28, 1999 (English abstract provided);
6. Memory Corp. PLC, Japanese Publication No. 11-511879, October 12, 1999, National Phase of PCT No. WO 9712325, (English abstract provided);
7. Memory Corp. PLC, PCT No. WO 9712325, April 3, 1997;
8. IBM Corp., Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No.06-274409, September 30, 1994 (English abstract provided)
9. Samsung Electronics, Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No.2002-123421, April 26, 2002 (English abstract provided);
10. LG Semicon Co. Ltd., Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No.11-297078, October 29, 1999 (English abstract provided);
11. M-Systems Ltd., Japanese Publication No. 08-510072, October 22, 1996, National Phase of PCT No. WO 9420906, (English abstract provided);
12. M-Systems Ltd., PCT No. WO 9420906, September 15, 1994;

13. Tokyo Electron Ltd., PCT No. WO 9930239, June 17, 1999 in Japanese (English abstract provided);
14. Tokyo Electron Ltd., EPO No. EP 0973097, January 19, 2000, National Phase application of WO 9930239; and
15. Oki Electric Ind. Co. Ltd., Japanese Application No. 02-71342, March 9, 1990 (English abstract provided).

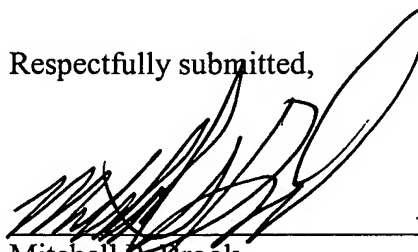
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Copies of the above-listed non-U.S. documents, which are listed above and on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08, are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that this document be (1) fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the examination of the above-identified application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. It is also respectfully requested that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, upon being considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b). Therefore, it is believed that no fee is required in connection with this submission. If a fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2298, in the name of Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP.

Respectfully submitted,



July 6, 2006

Date

Mitchell P. Brook

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 32,967

c/o

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Atty. Docket No.: 30391-18
Express Mail No. EV 738782076 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Syuichi KIKUCHI)

Serial No.: 10/518,417)

Filed: December 17, 2004)

For: FLASH MEMORY)

Group Art Unit: 2186

Examiner: Not assigned

San Diego, California
July 6, 2006

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Dear Sir:

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I hereby certify that the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement transmittal (4 pages); Information Disclosure Statement form PTO/SB/08 listing fifteen (15) cited references (2 pages); action from the Japanese Patent Office and its English translation (10 pages); and copies of the fifteen (15) cited references are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to the Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

July 6, 2006
Date


Kristin Chrudimsky



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) | | Complete if Known | |
| | | Application Number | 10/518,417 |
| | | Filing Date | December 17, 2004 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Syuichi KIKUCHI |
| | | Art Unit | 2186 |
| Examiner Name | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 30391-00018 | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials ⁵ | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials ⁵ | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP 08-221223 | 08-30-1996 | Mitsubishi Electric Corp. | | |
| | | JP 09-093523 | 04-04-1997 | Canon Inc. | | |
| | | JP 2002-537596 A | 11-05-2002 | Memory Corp. | | |
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| | | JP 08-510072 | 10-22-1996 | Systems Ltd. M; | | |
| | | WO 9930239 | 06-17-1999 | Tokyo Electron Ltd | | |

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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | Complete if Known | | |
| | | | Application Number | 10/518,417 | |
| | | | Filing Date | December 17, 2004 | |
| | | | First Named Inventor | Syuichi KIKUCHI | |
| | | | Art Unit | 2186 | |
| | | | Examiner Name | | |
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 30391-00018 |

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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. 1 | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T |
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| | | JP 02-71342 | 03-09-1990 | Oki Electric Ind Co Ltd | | |
| | | WO 0049488 | 09-24-2000 | Memory Corp. | | |
| | | WO 9712325 | 04-03-1997 | Victor Co of Japan Ltd | | |
| | | WO 9420906 | 09-15-1994 | Systems Ltd. M; | | |
| | | EP 0973097 | 01-19-2000 | Tokyo Electron Ltd | | |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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